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HOUSE BILL 3171 By
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SENATE BILL 3290
By Ford J

AN ACT to create a pilot project in Shelby County to help at-risk children.

WHEREAS, at-risk children often suffer from low self-esteem and lack of self-discipline;
and

WHEREAS, programs which address the needs of at-risk children are not always
available to the children who could most benefit from such programs; and

WHEREAS, the study and practice of martial arts include such principles as self-control,
courtesy, perseverance, confidence, respect and self-esteem;

WHEREAS, martial arts emphasize the complete personal development of each student;
and

WHEREAS, at-risk children could especially benefit from martial arts training; now,
thereto;

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. There is hereby created and established a pilot project in the Northhaven community in Shelby County to assist at-risk children in their personal development. The pilot project shall provide that at least one hundred students who lack adequate recreational facilities and opportunities will be able to attend martial arts programs. A report shall be conducted by the department of human services regarding the effectiveness of this program. The effectiveness of the program shall be measured by the number of at-risk children who attend

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marital arts training, the number of children who receive patches, belts or other insignia indicating competence in martial arts, and the number of children who are not involved in the criminal justice system during the time they are attending martial arts training. Such report shall be delivered to the speaker of the senate and the speaker of the house by February 1, 2000.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.